

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7836

S E C R E T BELGRADE 5593

NODIS

CHEROKEE FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: YO, APER

REF: STATE 211746

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

1. I DID NOT MEAN TO LECTURE THE SECRETARY OF STATE;
IF I SOUNDED PRESUMPTUOUS I APOLOGIZE. NOR DID I WISH
TO PUT YOU IN THE POSITION OF ADJUDICATING MY DISPUTE
WITH EE OVER THE TOTH CASE. (I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND WHY
YOU ASKED FOR MY REACTION TO THE CHRONOLOGY). YOUR
PUBLIC SUPPORT OF MY ACTIONS HAS BEEN GRATIFYING.

2. I FURTHER APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS TO ENSURE BACKING
FOR ME IN THE DEPARTMENT, ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE IT A LOST
CAUSE. I HAVE NOT RECEIVED RESPONSES TO NUMEROUS
CABLES IN THE LAST FEW WEEKS AND I'M CERTAIN THE
BUREAUCRATS WILL SIMPLY HUNKER DOWN UNTIL AFTER THE
ELECTION. YOU HAVE MORE IMPORTANT MATTERS TO DEAL
WITH THAN TO MONITOR RELATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY
BELGRADE AND EUR/EE. THUS FOR THE REASONS I HAVE
ALREADY SUBMITTED I REMAIN CONVINCED THAT MY
CONTINUED PRESENCE AS AMBASSADOR DOES NOT SERVE U.S.
INTERESTS SO I HAVE TODAY SUBMITTED MY RESIGNATION TO
THE PRESIDENT. IF ASKED WHY I HAVE RESIGNED (AFTER THE
WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT) I INTEND TO SAY ONLY THAT
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GOY HAS REFUSED TO DEAL WITH ME AND THEREFORE DESPITE

THE PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S UNFLAGGING SUPPORT, I FELT I HAD NO ALTERNATIVE.

3. I DO NOT INTEND TO REFER IN ANY FASHION TO POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EE AND MYSELF UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION. OUR OWN DIALOGUE OVER RECENT WEEKS AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL. I AM QUITE UNCOMFORTABLE WITH CERTAIN EDITORIALS WHICH HAVE ALLUDED TO POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND MYSELF; AS I HAVE PREVIOUSLY CABLED LARRY, I HAVE MY OWN THEORY AS TO THEIR GENESIS.

4. I HAVE BEEN TROUBLED--AS YOU KNEW I WOULD BE--BY THE PROSPECT OF ACCOMMODATING GOY DISPLEASURE BY RESIGNING. HOWEVER, YOU HAVE IT WITHIN YOUR MEANS TO AVOID THAT RESULT. YOU CAN DELAY MY REPLACEMENT AND YOU CAN INSURE THAT THE CAREERIST WHO FOLLOWS ME, AT MINIMUM, REFLECTS YOUR OWN VIEWS TOWARDS YUGOSLAVIA.

5. I APPRECIATE YOUR REFERENCE TO A POST ELECTION APPOINTMENT JUST AS I WAS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR DISCUSSION OF THAT PROSPECT IN PARIS; BUT YOU MUST KNOW THAT I HAVE HAD A BELLYFUL OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT. I AM INCLINED TO ASCRIBE YOUR MENTIONING THAT AS ANALOGOUS TO MY EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE POINTS OF LEVERAGE IN OUR DEALINGS WITH YUGOSLAVIA; I HOPE I'VE BEEN MORE ACCURATE.

6. LET ME CLOSE BY SAYING THAT WHATEVER DIFFERENCES WE HAVE HAD, I WILL ALWAYS BE PROUD TO HAVE SERVED A GREAT SECRETARY OF STATE AND ON A PERSONAL NOTE I HAVE ENJOYED OUR PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE IMMENSELY.
SILBERMAN

SECRET

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